



# **U.S. Drought Monitor Forum**

## **Holiday Inn Capitol**

### **Washington, D.C.**

### **October 20-21, 2005**

**Organized by USDA's Office of the Chief Economist and  
NOAA's Climate Prediction Center**

**Sponsored by the National Drought Mitigation Center,  
USDA's Office of the Chief Economist, NOAA's Climate  
Prediction Center, and NOAA's National Climatic Data Center**

Photograph of  
Albuquerque, New  
Mexico, and the Rio  
Grande, July 11, 2004,  
courtesy of Brad Rippey,  
USDA

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### **Forum Agenda:**

#### ***Thursday, October 20, 2005***

7:00 - 8:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast	
8:00 - 8:30 a.m.	Opening Remarks	<b>Secretary of Agriculture Mike Johanns</b> (invited) and <b>Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr.</b> (invited), Undersecretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator
8:30 - 8:45 a.m.	Welcome and Introductions	<b>Brad Rippey</b> , USDA, and <b>David Miskus</b> , NOAA/NWS/CPC
8:45 - 9:15 a.m.	NIDIS Update	<b>Bob Livezey</b> , NOAA/NWS/CSD
9:15 - 9:45 a.m.	NDMC Products Update	<b>Mike Hayes</b> , NDMC
9:45 - 10:00 a.m.	Refreshment Break	
10:00 - 10:30 a.m.	NOAA/CSD Update	<b>Bob Livezey</b> , NOAA/NWS/CSD
10:30 - Noon	Media Feedback on the U.S. Drought Monitor	Short presentations by various media outlets (followed by a Q & A session): <b>To be announced</b> <b>To be announced</b> <b>To be announced</b> <b>To be announced</b> <b>To be announced</b> <b>To be announced</b>
Noon - 1:15 p.m.	Lunch (on your own)	
1:15 - 1:45 p.m.	NCDC's Real-Time Station Data Monitoring System	<b>Richard Heim</b> , NOAA/NCDC

1:45 - 2:15 p.m.	WaterWatch Update and WaterMonitor.gov Introduction	<b>Harry Lins</b> , DOI/USGS
2:15 - 2:45 p.m.	NWS Southern Region Experimental Precipitation Analysis Tool	<b>Victor Murphy</b> , NWS
2:45 - 3:00 p.m.	Refreshment Break	
3:00 - 3:30 p.m.	2005 VegDRI Retrospective and Future Plans	<b>Jesslyn Brown</b> , SAIC (for USGS/EROS)
3:30 - 4:00 p.m.	2005 U.S. Crop Summary	<b>Brad Rippey</b> , USDA
4:00 - 4:30 p.m.	Update on the Seasonal Drought Outlook	<b>Douglas Le Comte</b> , NOAA/NWS/CPC
4:30 - 4:45 p.m.	Estimating the Economic Impacts of Drought	<b>Mike Hayes</b> (???), NDMC, and <b>Roger Pulwarty</b> (???), CIRES/CDC
4:45 - 5:00 p.m.	Observations and Analytical Tools for Western Drought Assessment	<b>Kelly Redmond</b> (???), DRI/Western RCC
5:00 p.m.	Adjournment	

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### ***Friday, October 21, 2005***

7:00 - 8:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast	
8:00 - 8:45 a.m.	ArcGIS Update and CPC Product Development	<b>Harlan Shannon</b> , USDA, and <b>Rich Tinker</b> , NOAA/NWS/CPC
8:45 - 9:15 a.m.	CLIMAS Update	<b>Mike Crimmins</b> , CLIMAS/Univ. of AZ
9:15 - 9:45 a.m.	Coming Out of Drought— When Is It Over?	*Southwestern Drought Expert*
9:45 - 10:00 a.m.	Refreshment Break	
10:00 - 10:30 a.m.	Conveying a Paradox to Decisionmakers: The Case of Floods During a Drought	*Plains/Western Drought Expert*
10:30- 11:00 a.m.	Computing the Monthly Palmer Drought Index on a Weekly Basis	<b>Richard Heim</b> , NOAA/NCDC
11:00 - 11:30 a.m.	Climate Variability and Water Availability in the Southeast Region	<b>Bud Badr</b> , SERCC Director

11:30 - Noon	Low-Flow Impacts Database	<b>Doug Kluck</b> , NWS Central Region
Noon - 1:15 p.m.	Lunch (on your own)	
1:15 - 1:45 p.m.	USDM Guidelines	<b>Douglas Le Comte</b> , NOAA/NWS/CPC
1:45 - 2:45 p.m.	General Discussion of USDM Technical and Administrative Issues (including the creation of a U.S. Drought Monitor External Advisory Product Enhancement Team?)	Moderator: <b>Mark Svoboda</b> , NDMC
2:45 - 3:00 p.m.	Refreshment Break	
3:00 - 3:30 p.m.	Canadian Drought- Monitoring Update	<b>Ted O'Brien</b> (???), AAFC-PFRA
3:30 - 4:00 p.m.	Mexican Drought- Monitoring Update	<b>Phil Englehart</b> , Creighton University
4:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Open Discussion of NADM Issues	Moderator: <b>Jay Lawrimore</b> (???), NCDC
5:00 p.m.	Adjournment	

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#### List of Acronyms

AAFC	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
AMS	American Meteorological Society
CDC	Climate Diagnostics Center
CSD	Climate Services Division
CIRES	Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences
CLIMAS	Climate Assessment for the Southwest
CNA	Comisión Nacional del Agua (National Water Commission of Mexico)
CPC	Climate Prediction Center
DOI	U.S. Department of the Interior
DRI	Desert Research Institute
EC	Environment Canada
EROS	National Center for Earth Resources Observation and Science
ISWS	Illinois State Water Survey
JAWF	USDA/NOAA Joint Agricultural Weather Facility
MSC	Meteorological Service of Canada
NADM	North American Drought Monitor
NCDC	National Climatic Data Center
NCEP	National Centers for Environmental Prediction
NDMC	National Drought Mitigation Center
NRCS	USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service
NESDIS	National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service
NIDIS	National Integrated Drought Information System
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NWS	National Weather Service
PFRA	Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration (Canada)
RCC	Regional Climate Center
RFC	River Forecast Center
SMN	Servicio Meteorológico Nacional (National Meteorological Service of Mexico)
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USDM	U.S. Drought Monitor
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
WGA	Western Governors' Association